



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

In addition to housing, communities thrive because of a responsive network of community-based services, open public spaces, recreational areas, functioning public infrastructure, and other community amenities. The following chapter provides a summary of community development needs that City of Falls Church residents identified as part of the Housing & Community Development Needs survey distributed in October and November 2004.

A copy of the survey is included at the end of this chapter. The highest needs were determined by tallying the survey topics for which the majority of respondents indicated that the topic was the “high need” in the City. “Lowest” ranked needs were determined by tallying the survey topics for which the majority of respondents indicated that the topic was the “low need” in the City.



Highest Community Needs

Housing	Community Facilities	Services	Public Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homeownership Assistance• Senior/Elderly Housing• Affordable Rental Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parks & Recreation Facilities• Health Care Facilities• Fire Stations & Equipment• Libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Activities• Transportation System• Anti-Crime Programs• Health Services• Mental Health System• Neglected/Abused Children’s Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Street Lighting• Sidewalk Improvements

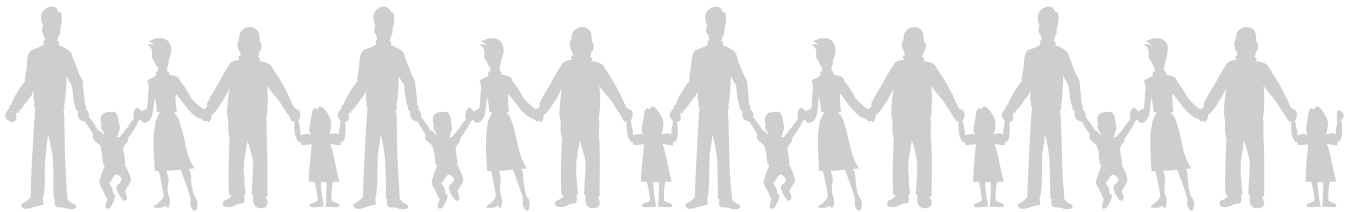


Lowest Ranked Community Needs

There were two items that were unilaterally determined to be low needs: single family housing and larger family housing. The majority of residents ranked all other items as a medium need.

Priority for Funding Community Development Needs

Based on input from the survey, the highest ranked needs will receive priority “High” need funding as part of the 2006-2010 Consolidated Plan. Additionally, for items on the survey for which the majority of residents indicated a “3 “ ranking, those items will be ranked as a “Medium” need. Finally, the items where the majority of residents ranked the needs as 1 or 2 will be classified as a “Low” need and will not be funded. For a summary of community development funding priorities, see Table 2B in the Appendix C.





City of Falls Church Community Development Residents Survey

The City of Falls Church receives approximately \$150,000 in federal funds each year for housing and community development projects. The City's Housing and Human Services Division (HHS) wants you to have a voice in how the City invests this money. Please assist us by filling out this survey.

- 1) Consider the **needs** in your community and how they can be improved. 2) Rate the **need** level for each of the following items and choose the one that best applies.

Using the range from 1 to 4, 1 indicating the lowest need, 4 indicating the highest need.

Housing	Lowest 1	2	3	Highest 4
Residential Rehabilitation				
Homeownership Assistance				
Housing for Disabled Persons				
Senior/Elderly Housing				
Single Family Housing				
Large Family Housing				
Affordable Rental Housing				
Fair Housing Enforcement				
Lead-based Paint Test/Abatement				
Residential Historic Preservation				
Non-Residential Historic Preservation				
Energy Efficient Improvements				

Community Facilities	Low 1	2	3	High 4	Community Services	Low 1	2	3	High 4
Senior Centers					Senior Activities				
Youth Centers					Youth Activities				
Child Care Centers					Child Care Services				
Park/Recreation Facilities					Transportation Sys.				
Health Care Facilities					Anti-Crime Programs				
Community Centers					Health Services				
Fire Stations & Equipment					Mental Health Sys.				
Libraries					Legal Services				

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Specials Needs Services	Low 1	2	3	High 4	Businesses & Jobs	Low 1	2	3	High 4
Centers/Svs for Disabled					Start Up Business Assistance				
Accessibility Improvements					Small Business Loans				
Domestic Violence Services					Job Creation/Retention				
Substance Abuse Services					Employment Training				
Homeless Shelters/Services					Commercial/Industrial Rehabilitation				
HIV/AIDS Centers & Services					Facade Improvements				
Neglected/Abused Children Centers & Services					Business Mentoring				

Infrastructure	Low 1	2	3	High 4	Neighborhood Services	Low 1	2	3	High 4
Drainage Improvement					Tree Planting				
Water/Sewer Improvement					Trash & Debris Removal				
Street/Alley Improvement					Graffiti Removal				
Street Lighting					Code Enforcement				
Sidewalk Improvements					Parking Facilities				
					Cleanup of Abandoned Lots & Buildings				

Please write in any needs not listed above: _____

Part II. As part of this planning process, the City must also analyze factors that limit fair housing choice in the City of Falls Church. Your own experiences will contribute to the efforts to research obstacles such as the nature and extent of housing discrimination. This information will be used to assist in developing strategies to overcome impediments to fair housing choice. This survey is for informational gathering purposes only.

1. Do you believe housing discrimination is an issue in your neighborhood? ____ Yes ____ No
2. Have you ever-experienced discrimination in housing? ____ Yes ____ No

(If Yes, Please proceed to Questions 3, 4, and 5)

3. Who do you believe discriminated against you?
 ____ Landlord/property manager ____ Real estate agent
 ____ Mortgage lender ____ Mortgage insurer
4. On what basis do you believe you were discriminated against?
 ____ Race ____ Color ____ National Origin ____ Religion ____ Gender
 ____ Familial Status (single-parent with children, family with children or expecting a child)
 ____ Disability (either you or someone close to you)
5. If you believe you have been discriminated against, have you reported the incident? ____ Yes ____ No
If NO - WHY?
 ____ Don't know where to report ____ Afraid of retaliation
 ____ Too much trouble ____ Don't believe it makes any difference